MARVEL®
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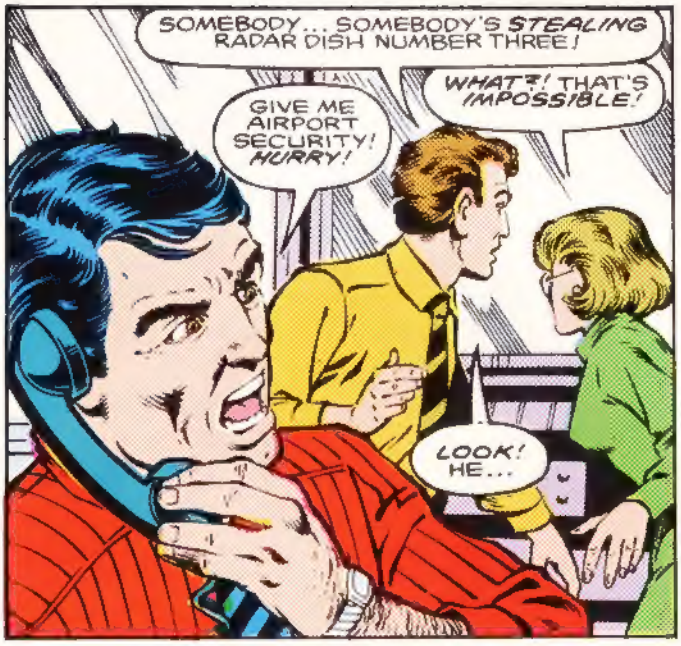
THE TRANSFORMERS™

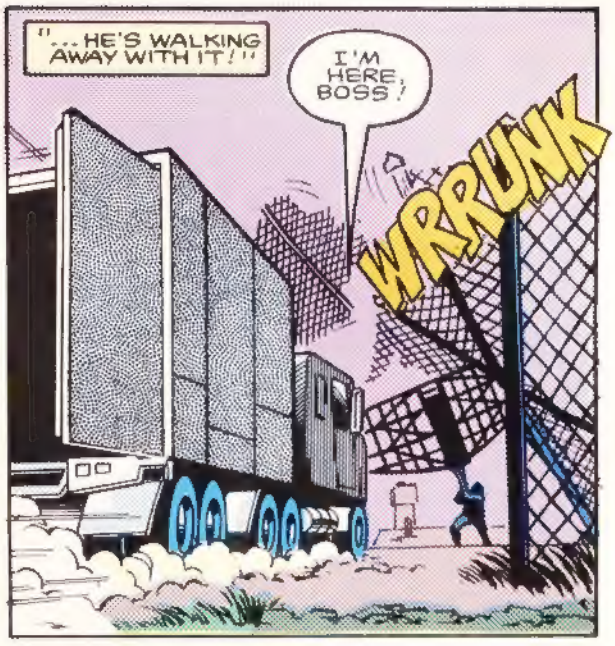
THE MECHANIC...

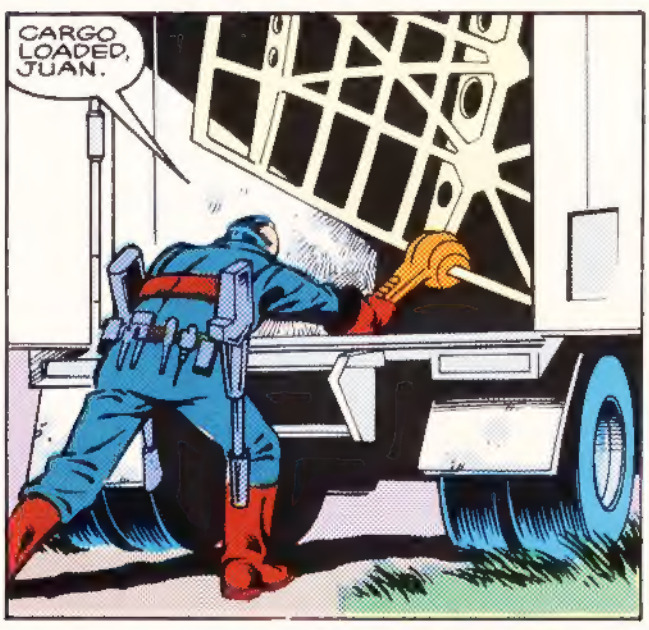
IS BACK!

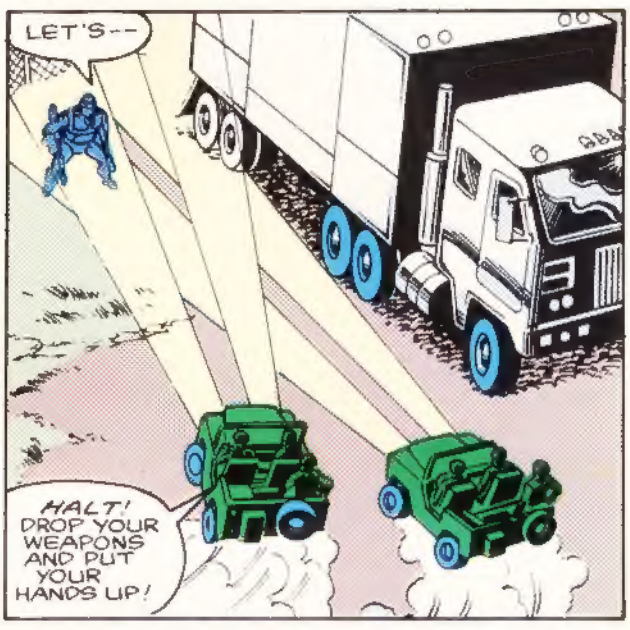
TRANSFORMERS™

Script BOB BUDIANSKY ■ Pencils DON PERLIN ■ Inks AKIN & GARVEY ■ Letters JANICE CHIANG ■ Colour NEL YOMTOV


SOMEBODY... SOMEBODY'S STEALING RADAR DISH NUMBER THREE!
GIVE ME AIRPORT SECURITY! HURRY!
WHAT?! THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
LOOK! HE...

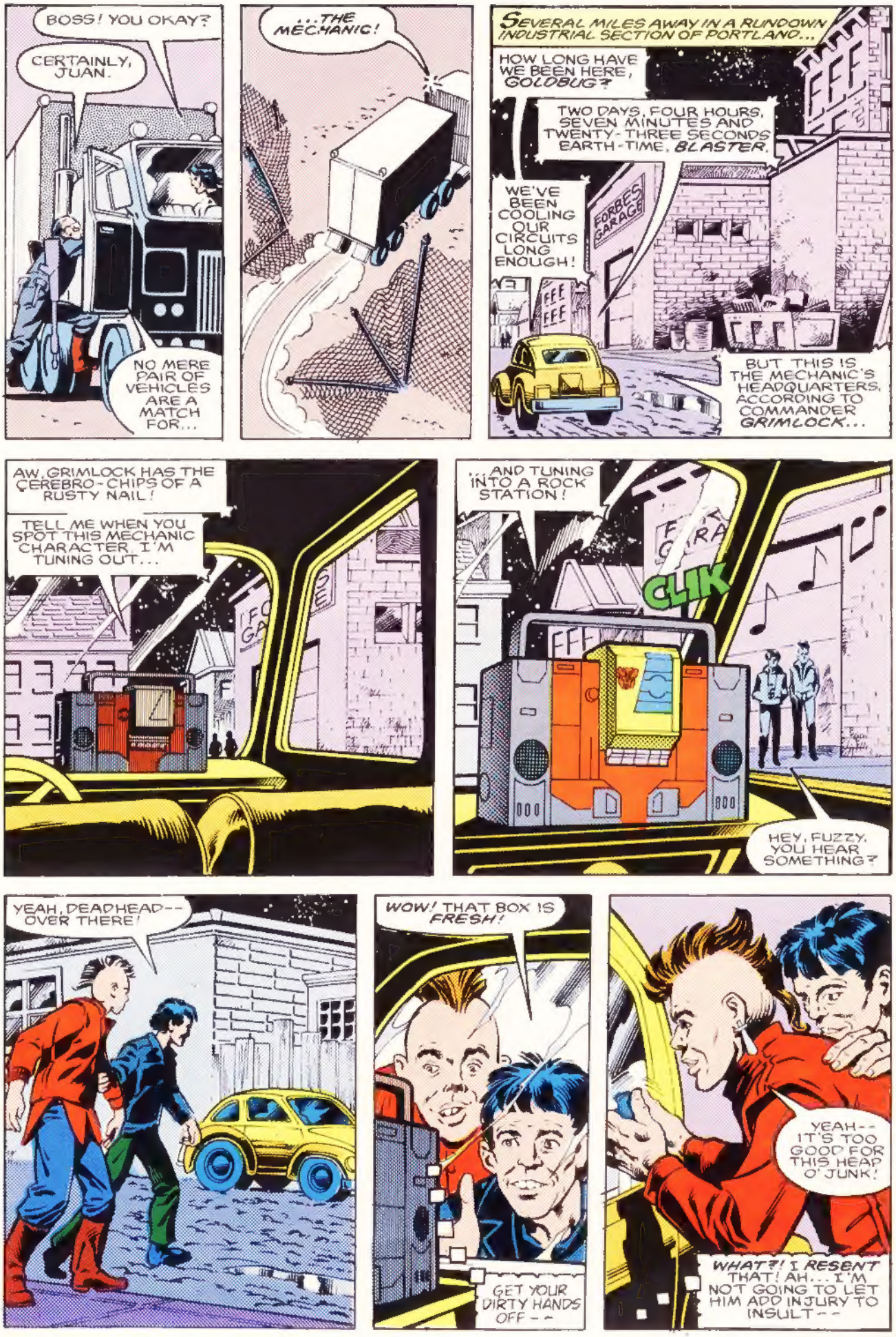

"...HE'S WALKING AWAY WITH IT!"
I'M HERE, BOSS!
WRRUNK


CARGO LOADED, JUAN.


LET'S--
HALT! DROP YOUR WEAPONS AND PUT YOUR HANDS UP!

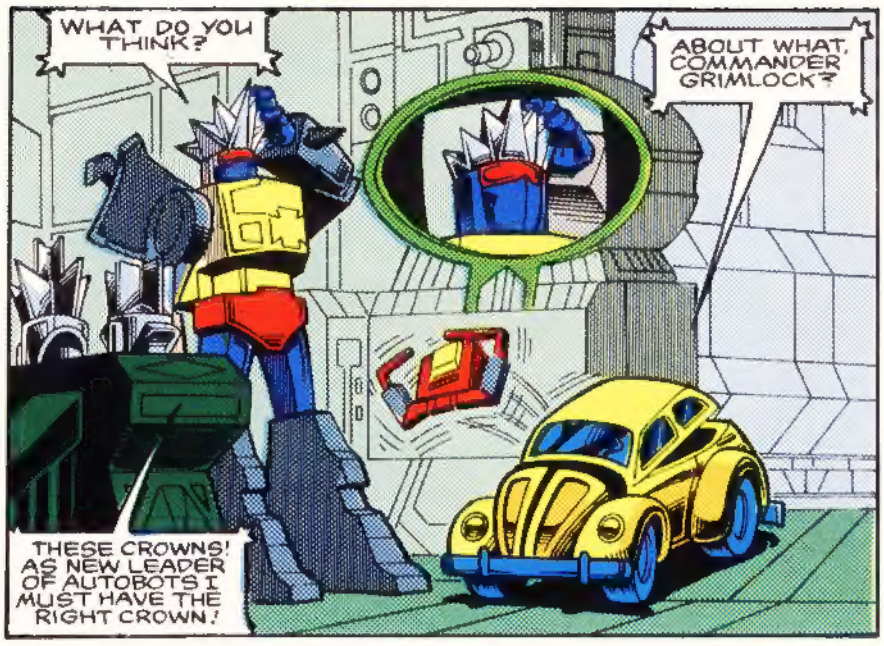
I'D BE HAPPY TO OBLIGE YOU, GENTLEMEN...
...AT LEAST ON YOUR SECOND REQUEST!
BZZZIP
BZZAP

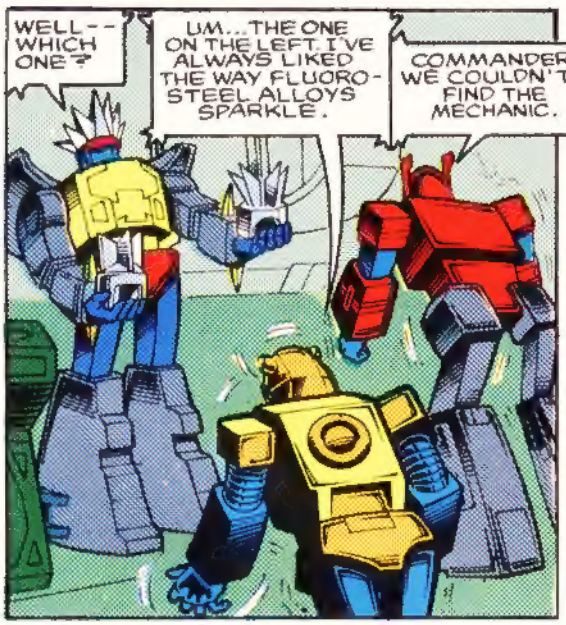
THE TIRE--HE FROZE IT! IT'S CRACKING!
OOF!
HE BURNT A HOLE IN OUR WHEEL!
YEOW!
KRAK
BLAM

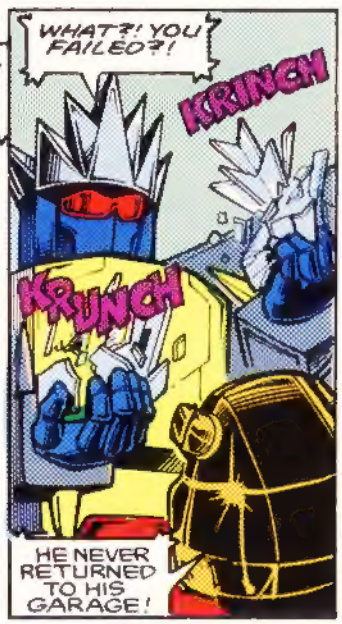

BOSS! YOU OKAY?
CERTAINLY, JUAN.
NO MERE PAIR OF VEHICLES ARE A MATCH FOR...
...THE MECHANIC!
SEVERAL MILES AWAY IN A RUNDOWN INDUSTRIAL SECTION OF PORTLAND...
HOW LONG HAVE WE BEEN HERE, GOLDBUG?
TWO DAYS, FOUR HOURS, SEVEN MINUTES AND TWENTY-THREE SECONDS EARTH-TIME, BLASTER.
WE'VE BEEN COOLING OUR CIRCUITS LONG ENOUGH!
FORBES GARAGE
BUT THIS IS THE MECHANIC'S HEADQUARTERS, ACCORDING TO COMMANDER GRIMLOCK...
AW, GRIMLOCK HAS THE CEREBRO-CHIPS OF A RUSTY NAIL!
TELL ME WHEN YOU SPOT THIS MECHANIC CHARACTER, I'M TUNING OUT...
...AND TUNING INTO A ROCK STATION!
CLIK
HEY, FUZZY, YOU HEAR SOMETHING?
YEAH, DEADHEAD--OVER THERE!
WOW! THAT BOX IS FRESH!
GET YOUR DIRTY HANDS OFF--
YEAH--IT'S TOO GOOD FOR THIS HEAP O' JUNK!
WHAT?! I RESENT THAT! AH... I'M NOT GOING TO LET HIM ADD INJURY TO INSULT--

--BETTER LET HIM OPEN MY DOOR!
HA! THAT WAS A SNAP!
HEY?!
!?
SLAMM
THE DOOR'S HINGES MUST BE FAULTY.
YEAH, RIGHT.
IT DID IT AGAIN!
SLAMM
FORGET THE DOOR! LET'S GO THROUGH THE WINDOW!
UH OH...
BONK
IT'S DRIVIN' OFF ON ITS OWN!
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
THAT CAR IS SPOOKED!
YOU TWO KIDS LOOK LIKE YOU'VE SEEN A GHOST.
OUTTA OUR WAY!
OOF!
Y-YEAH, WE DON'T WANT NO TROUBLE!
NEITHER DO WE.
THIS IS DETECTIVE ALTMAN AND I'M DETECTIVE GRECO, PORTLAND P.D.
HOW 'BOUT WE ALL TAKE A RIDE TO THE STATION HOUSE AND YOU CAN TELL US WHAT'S SO SCARY, OKAY?

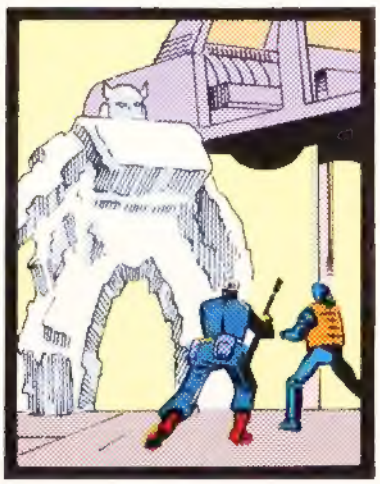
NINETY MINUTES LATER...
A CAVE AT THE BASE OF MOUNT ST. HILARY--HOME OF THE ARK, THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE AUTOBOTS...
THINK HE'LL BE ANGRY?
VERY-GOLDBUG!


WHAT DO YOU THINK?
ABOUT WHAT, COMMANDER GRIMLOCK?
THESE CROWNS! AS NEW LEADER OF AUTOBOTS I MUST HAVE THE RIGHT CROWN!

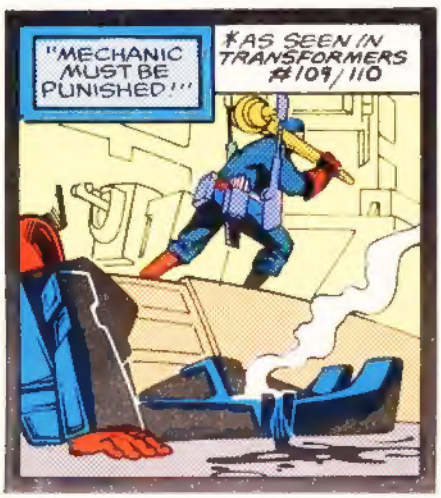

WELL--WHICH ONE?
UM...THE ONE ON THE LEFT. I'VE ALWAYS LIKED THE WAY FLUORO-STEEL ALLOYS SPARKLE.
COMMANDER, WE COULDN'T FIND THE MECHANIC.


WHAT?! YOU FAILED?!
KRINCH
KRUNCH
HE NEVER RETURNED TO HIS GARAGE!

"BUT DOCTOR RATCHET SAID GARAGE IS MECHANIC'S HEADQUARTERS!

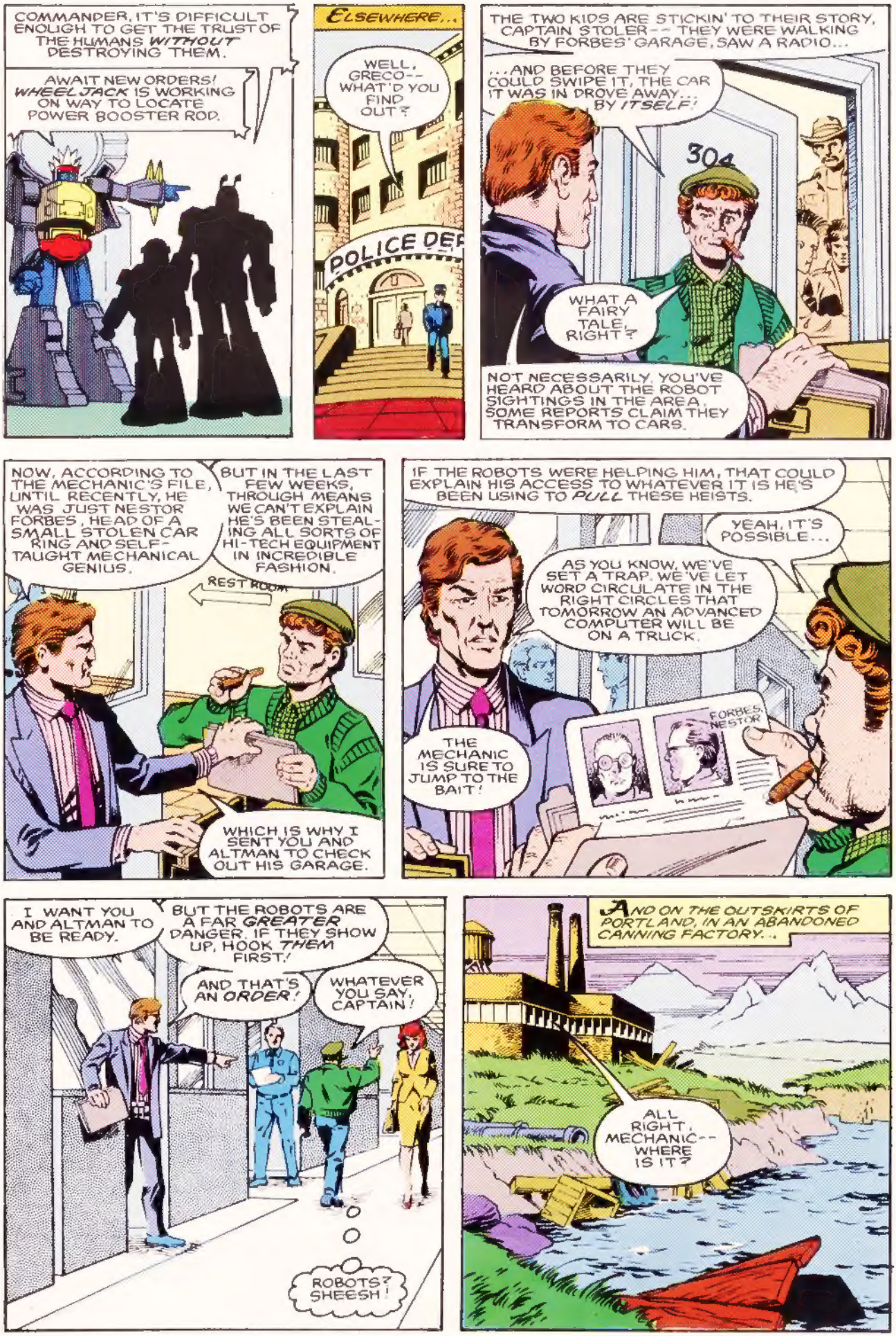


"MECHANIC STOLE AUTOBOT TOOLS--CRYOGENIC SPRAYER, LASER SCALPEL, POWER BOOSTER ROD!* THEY MUST BE RETURNED!


"MECHANIC MUST BE PUNISHED!"
*AS SEEN IN TRANSFORMERS #109/110

I ORDERED YOU TO FIND HIM!
ER, SOME HUMANS WERE INTERFERING WITH OUR SURVEILLANCE...
...SO WE HAD TO LEAVE.

I GAVE YOU NO PERMISSION TO LEAVE!
WHAK
WHY YOU NOT DESTROY HUMANS?!


COMMANDER, IT'S DIFFICULT ENOUGH TO GET THE TRUST OF THE HUMANS *WITHOUT* DESTROYING THEM.
AWAIT NEW ORDERS! *WHEELJACK* IS WORKING ON WAY TO LOCATE POWER BOOSTER ROD.
ELSEWHERE...
WELL, GRECO-- WHAT'D YOU FIND OUT?
POLICE DEP
THE TWO KIDS ARE STICKIN' TO THEIR STORY, CAPTAIN STOLER-- THEY WERE WALKING BY FORBES' GARAGE, SAW A RADIO...
...AND BEFORE THEY COULD SWIPE IT, THE CAR IT WAS IN DROVE AWAY... BY *ITSELF!*
304
WHAT A FAIRY TALE, RIGHT?
NOT NECESSARILY. YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT THE ROBOT SIGHTINGS IN THE AREA, SOME REPORTS CLAIM THEY TRANSFORM TO CARS.
NOW, ACCORDING TO THE MECHANIC'S FILE, UNTIL RECENTLY, HE WAS JUST NESTOR FORBES, HEAD OF A SMALL STOLEN CAR RING AND SELF-TAUGHT MECHANICAL GENIUS.
BUT IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS, THROUGH MEANS WE CAN'T EXPLAIN HE'S BEEN STEALING ALL SORTS OF HI-TECH EQUIPMENT IN INCREDIBLE FASHION.
REST ROOM
WHICH IS WHY I SENT YOU AND ALTMAN TO CHECK OUT HIS GARAGE.
IF THE ROBOTS WERE HELPING HIM, THAT COULD EXPLAIN HIS ACCESS TO WHATEVER IT IS HE'S BEEN USING TO *PULL* THESE HEISTS.
YEAH, IT'S POSSIBLE...
AS YOU KNOW, WE'VE SET A TRAP. WE'VE LET WORD CIRCULATE IN THE RIGHT CIRCLES THAT TOMORROW AN ADVANCED COMPUTER WILL BE ON A TRUCK.
FORBES
NESTOR
THE MECHANIC IS SURE TO JUMP TO THE BAIT!
I WANT YOU AND ALTMAN TO BE READY.
BUT THE ROBOTS ARE A FAR *GREATER* DANGER. IF THEY SHOW UP, HOOK *THEM* FIRST!
AND THAT'S AN *ORDER!*
WHATEVER YOU SAY, CAPTAIN!
ROBOTS? SHEESH!
AND ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF PORTLAND, IN AN ABANDONED CANNING FACTORY...
ALL RIGHT, MECHANIC-- WHERE IS IT?

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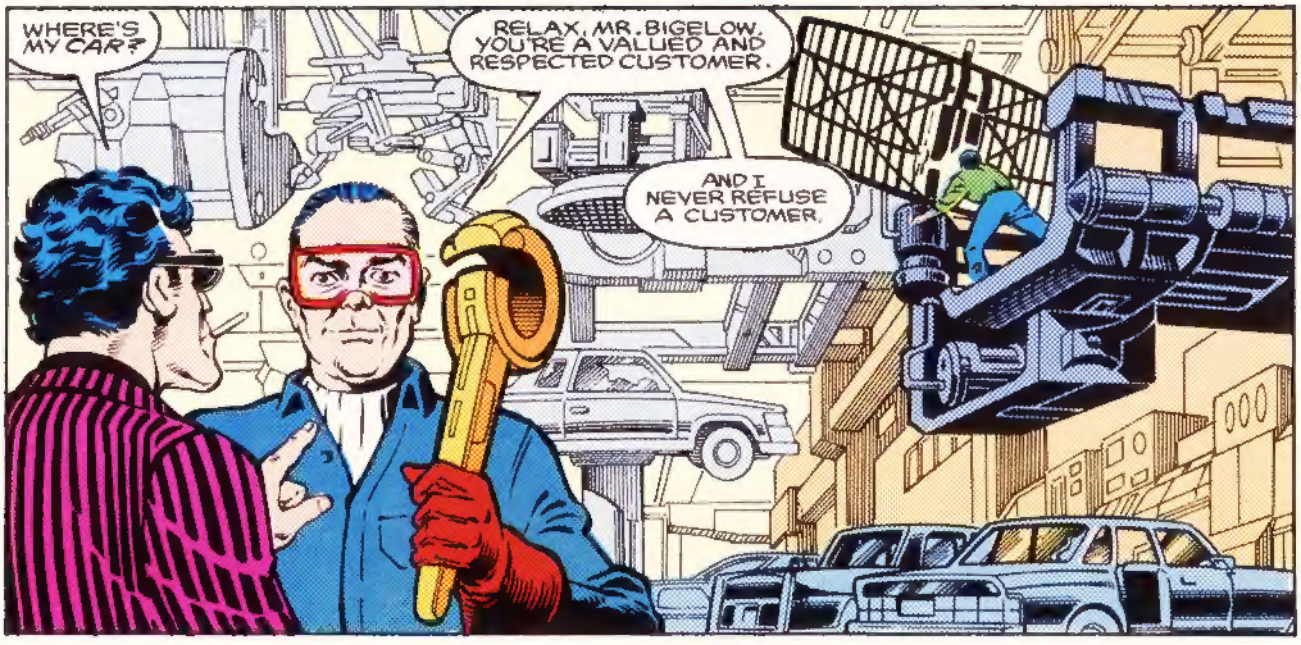
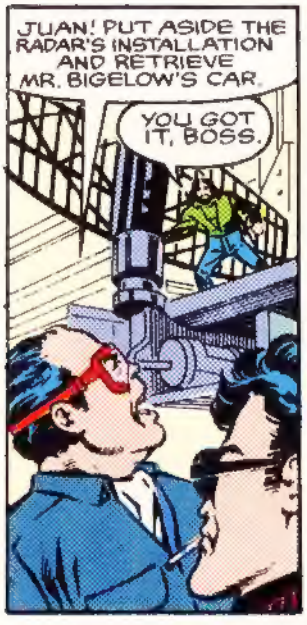
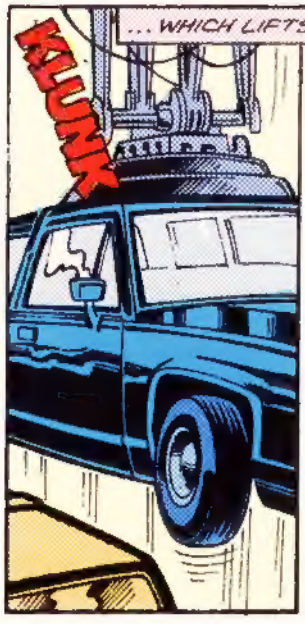
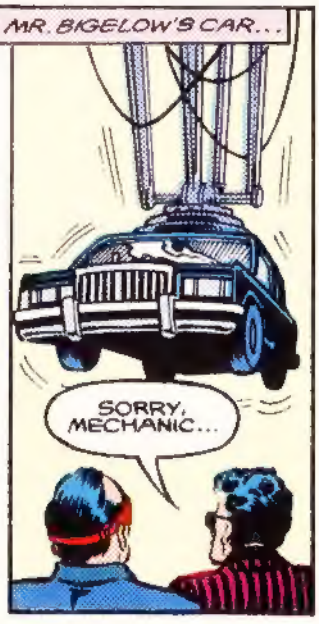

WHERE'S MY CAR?
RELAX, MR. BIGELOW, YOU'RE A VALUED AND RESPECTED CUSTOMER.
AND I NEVER REFUSE A CUSTOMER.

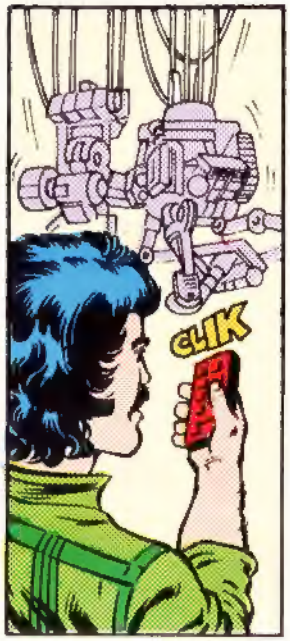

JUAN! PUT ASIDE THE RADAR'S INSTALLATION AND RETRIEVE MR. BIGELOW'S CAR.
YOU GOT IT, BOSS.

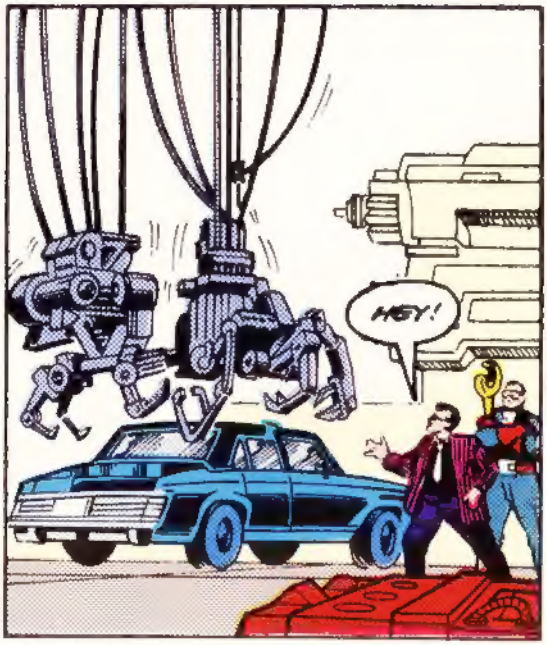
THE MECHANIC'S ASSISTANT MANIPULATES A REMOTE CONTROL DEVICE...
...ACTIVATING A POWERFUL ELECTRO-MAGNET...

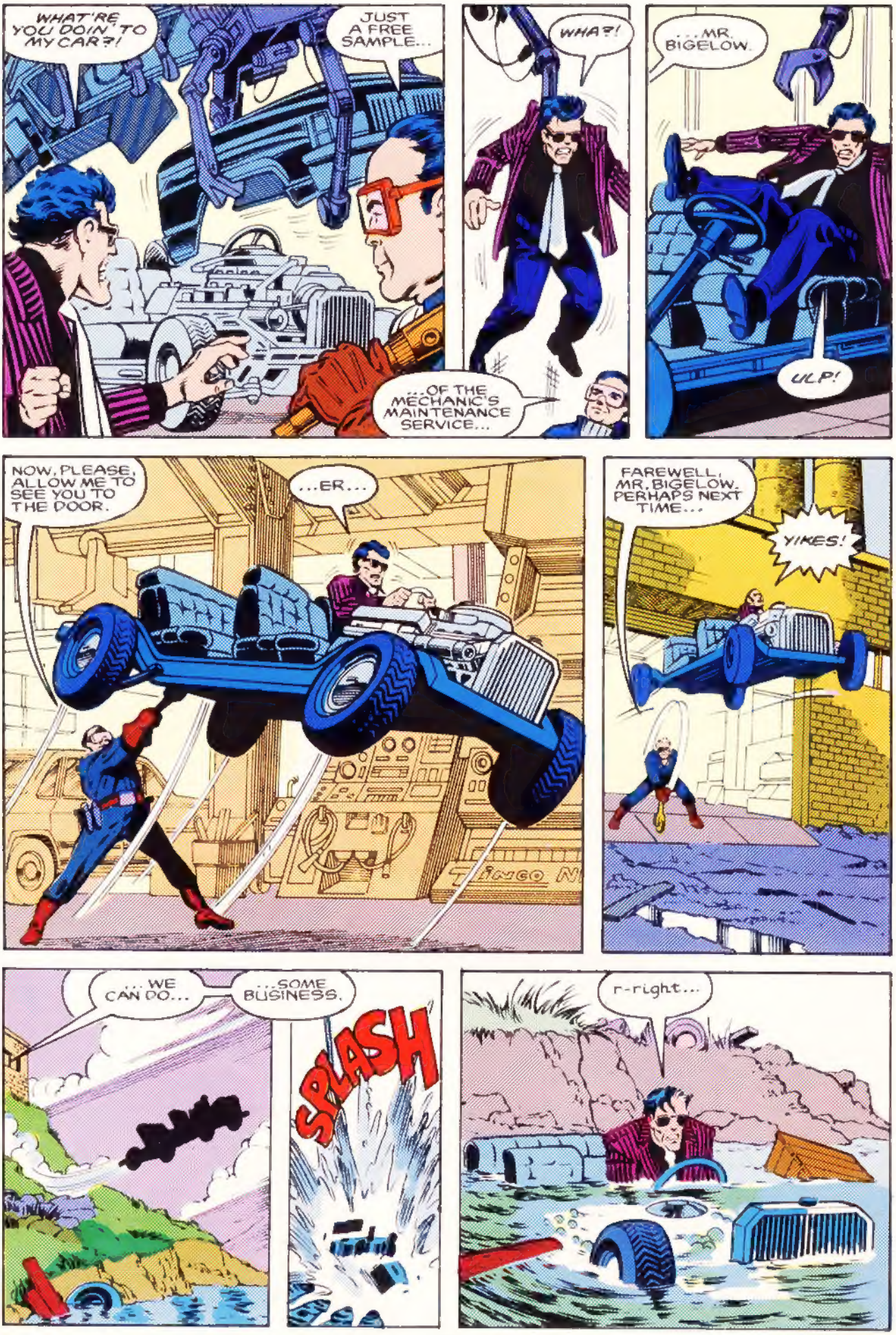

KLUNK


...WHICH LIFTS MR. BIGELOW'S CAR...
SORRY, MECHANIC...

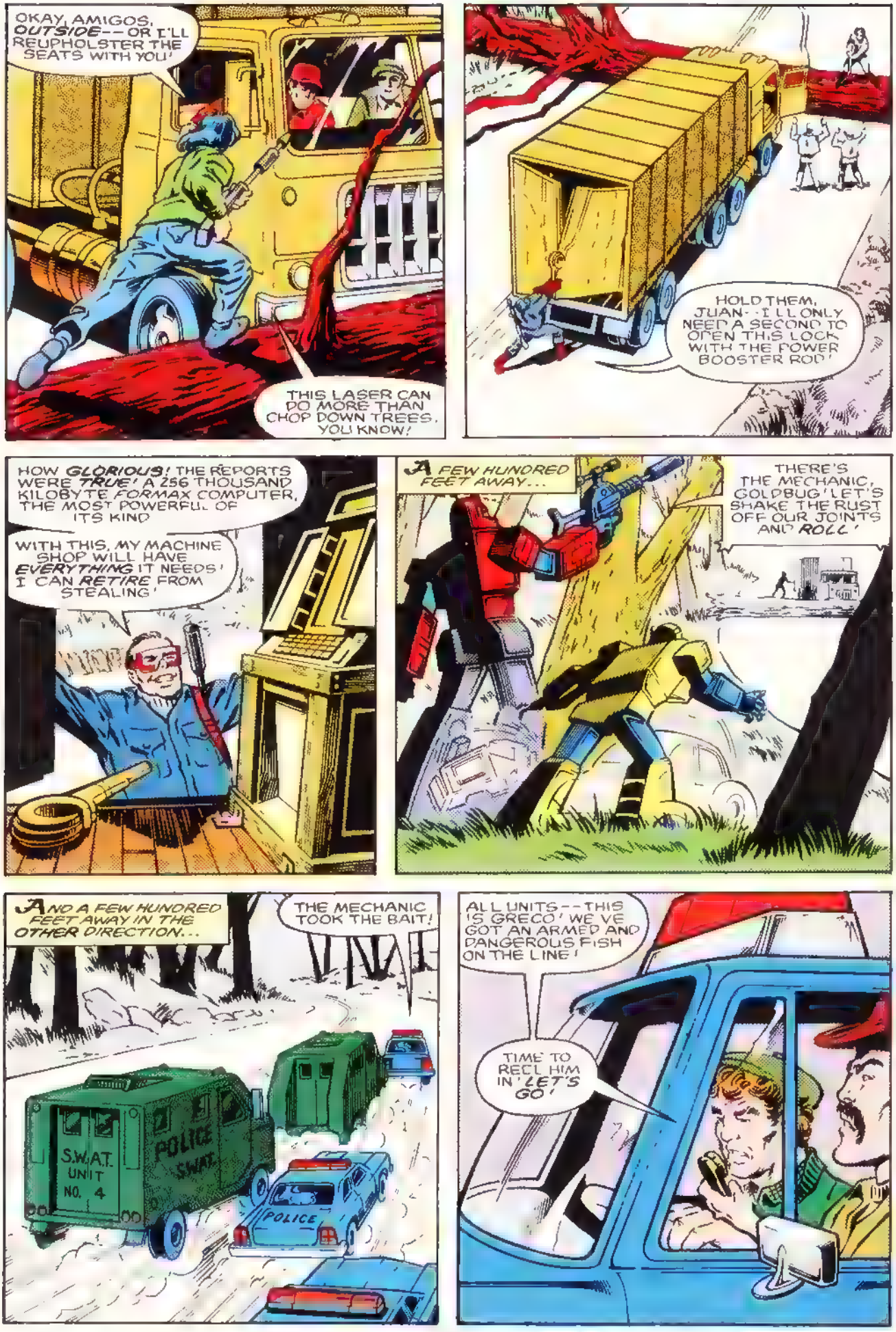
...BUT I'VE RECONSIDERED. FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR YOUR "MAINTENANCE" JUST AIN'T WORTH IT.
ON THE CONTRARY, MR. BIGELOW. MY WORK IS A BARGAIN AT THAT PRICE.
BONK

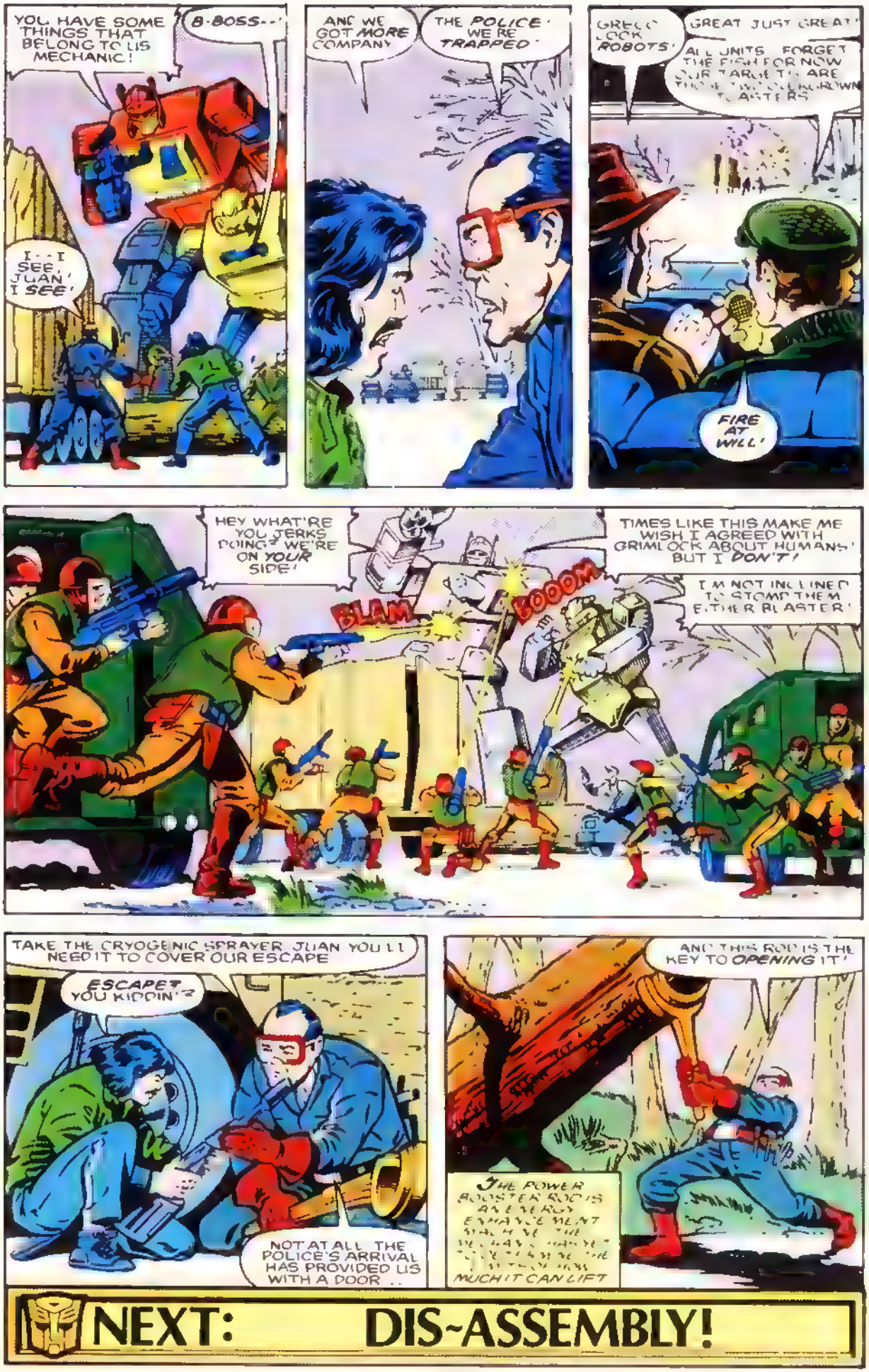

CLIK


HEY!


WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' TO MY CAR?!
JUST A FREE SAMPLE...
...OF THE MECHANIC'S MAINTENANCE SERVICE...
WHA?!
...MR. BIGELOW.
ULP!
NOW, PLEASE, ALLOW ME TO SEE YOU TO THE DOOR.
...ER...
FAREWELL, MR. BIGELOW. PERHAPS NEXT TIME...
YIKES!
... WE CAN DO...
...SOME BUSINESS.
SPLASH
r-right...

AND AT THAT SAME MOMENT...
I'VE GOT IT!
GOT WHAT, WHEELJACK?
THE POWER BOOSTER ROD, COMMANDER GRIMLOCK. AS YOU KNOW, WHEN IT'S IN USE, IT CAN BE REACHED VIA SPECIFIC RADIO FREQUENCY FOR REMOTE CONTROL PURPOSES.
THE MECHANIC MUST'VE USED IT, SO NOW I'VE GOT A FIX ON IT.
TUNE TO FREQUENCY 486.36, BLASTER, AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO TRACK IT DOWN.
YOU HEAR, BLASTER AND GOLDBUG? GO! FIND ROD! FIND MECHANIC! BRING BACK TO ME!
FAILURE MEANS PUNISHMENT!
MUCH PUNISHMENT!
LATER, SEVERAL DOZEN MILES AWAY ON A LONELY COUNTRY ROAD...
I'VE TRACED THE POWER BOOSTER ROD TO THIS VICINITY, GOLDBUG.
I DON'T SEE THE MECHANIC YET, BLASTER-- JUST A TRUCK.
SUDDENLY...
BZZIP
SKREECH
WHOMP
YIKES!

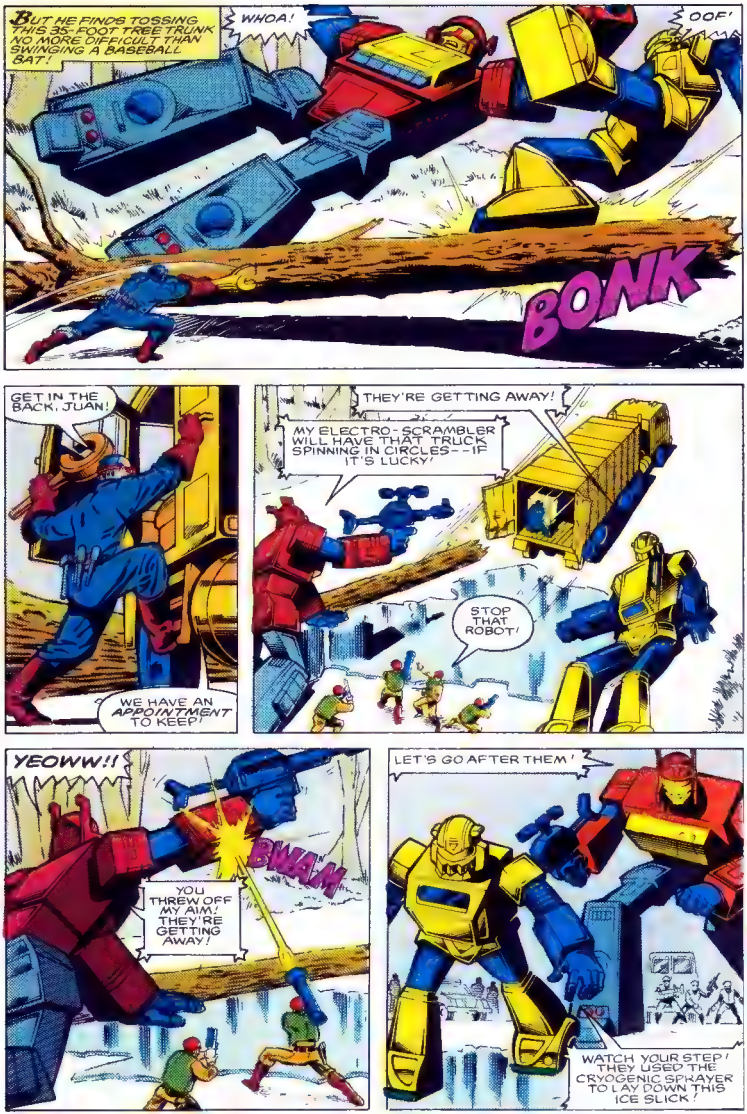

OKAY, AMIGOS, OUTSIDE -- OR I'LL REUPHOLSTER THE SEATS WITH YOU!
THIS LASER CAN DO MORE THAN CHOP DOWN TREES, YOU KNOW!
HOLD THEM, JUAN -- I'LL ONLY NEED A SECOND TO OPEN THIS LOCK WITH THE POWER BOOSTER ROD!
HOW GLORIOUS! THE REPORTS WERE TRUE! A 256 THOUSAND KILOBYTE FORMAX COMPUTER, THE MOST POWERFUL OF ITS KIND
WITH THIS, MY MACHINE SHOP WILL HAVE EVERYTHING IT NEEDS! I CAN RETIRE FROM STEALING!
A FEW HUNDRED FEET AWAY...
THERE'S THE MECHANIC, GOLDBUG! LET'S SHAKE THE RUST OFF OUR JOINTS AND ROLL!
AND A FEW HUNDRED FEET AWAY IN THE OTHER DIRECTION...
THE MECHANIC TOOK THE BAIT!
S.W.A.T. UNIT NO. 4
POLICE S.W.A.T.
POLICE
ALL UNITS -- THIS IS GRECO! WE'VE GOT AN ARMED AND DANGEROUS FISH ON THE LINE!
TIME TO REEL HIM IN! LET'S GO!


YOU HAVE SOME THINGS THAT BELONG TO US MECHANIC!
B-BOSS--'
I--I SEE, JUAN, I SEE'
AND WE GOT MORE COMPANY
THE POLICE' WE'RE TRAPPED'
GREG'--OCK ROBOTS'
GREAT JUST GREAT'
ALL UNITS FORGET THE FISH FOR NOW OUR TARGETS ARE THOSE TWO CLOWNS TO ASTERS
FIRE AT WILL'
HEY WHAT'RE YOU JERKS DOING? WE'RE ON YOUR SIDE'
BLAM
BOOOM
TIMES LIKE THIS MAKE ME WISH I AGREED WITH GRIMLOCK ABOUT HUMANS' BUT I DON'T'
I'M NOT INCLINED TO STOMP THEM EITHER BLASTER'
TAKE THE CRYOGENIC SPRAYER, JUAN YOU'LL NEED IT TO COVER OUR ESCAPE
ESCAPE? YOU KIDDIN'?
NOT AT ALL THE POLICE'S ARRIVAL HAS PROVIDED US WITH A DOOR ..
AND THIS ROD IS THE KEY TO OPENING IT'
THE POWER BOOSTER ROD IS AN ENERGY ENHANCEMENT DEVICE THAT MULTIPLIES THE ROBOT'S STRENGTH MANY TIMES OVER! THE MUCH IT CAN LIFT
NEXT: DIS-ASSEMBLY!

MARVEL
BONUS ACTION FORCE MINI-COMIC!
18th July 87
No 122 32p

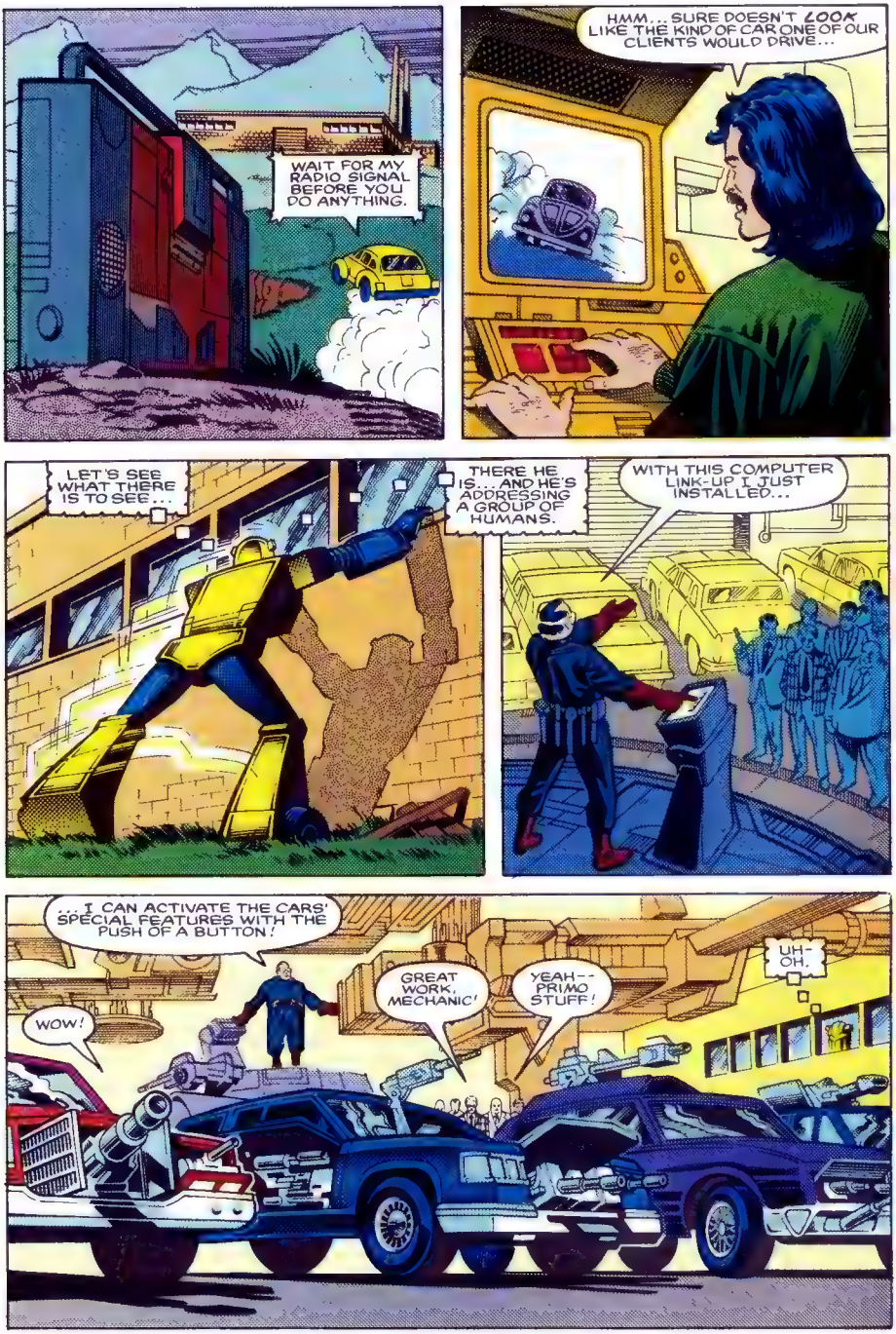
THE TRANSFORMERS

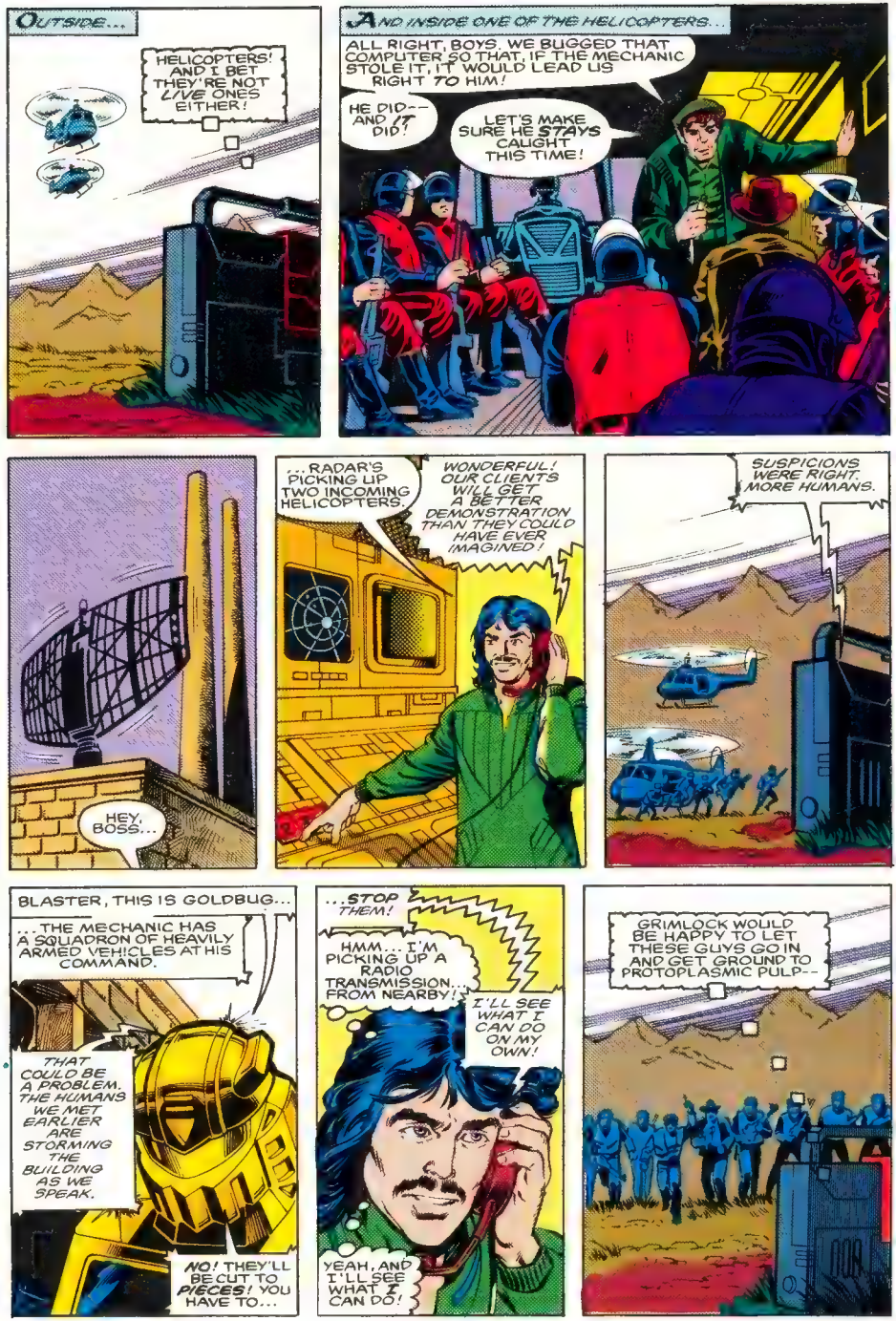
GOLDBUG-
ON THE DIS-ASSEMBLY LINE!


BUT HE FINDS TOSSING THIS 35-FOOT TREE TRUNK NO MORE DIFFICULT THAN SWINGING A BASEBALL BAT!
WHOA!
OOF!
BONK
GET IN THE BACK, JUAN!
WE HAVE AN APPOINTMENT TO KEEP!
THEY'RE GETTING AWAY!
MY ELECTRO-SCRAMBLER WILL HAVE THAT TRUCK SPINNING IN CIRCLES--IF IT'S LUCKY!
STOP THAT ROBOT!
YEOWW!!
BWAM
YOU THREW OFF MY AIM! THEY'RE GETTING AWAY!
LET'S GO AFTER THEM!
WATCH YOUR STEP! THEY USED THE CRYOGENIC SPRAYER TO LAY DOWN THIS ICE SLICK!

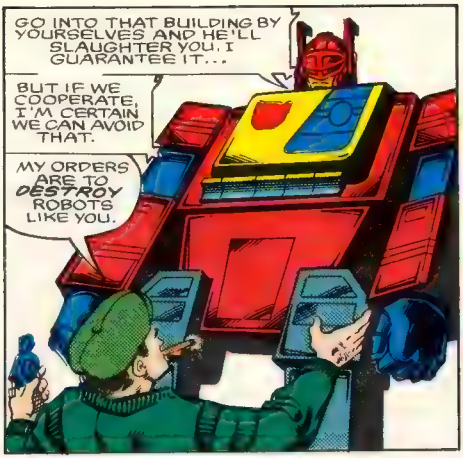
I'D WALK OVER HOT SLAG TO GET AWAY FROM THESE POLICE PESTS!
OUCH!
KPOW
HE GOT ME IN THE TIRE!
PUT IT IN DRIVE, BOYS! WE'RE FOLLOWING THAT CAR!
POLICE
BUT THE ICY ROAD PROVES TREACHEROUS...
HEY, WATCH OUT!
LEFT! LEFT!
KRUNK
AAARGH!
AND A FEW MILES AWAY...
AWRIGHT, BOSS! WE DID IT!
NOW, NOW, JUAN, LET'S GIVE CREDIT WHERE IT'S DUE--
--THE POLICE HELPED! HA HA!

MEANWHILE, OFF THE MAIN ROAD...
IT WAS ONLY YOUR TYRE, GOLDBUG. A FLESH WOUND.
THE SPARE WILL HAVE YOU ROLLING LIKE NEW.
GOOD, I CAN'T WAIT TO FIND THE MECHANIC AND BE FINISHED WITH THIS MISERABLE MISSION.
THAT SHOULD BE EASY--
--I STILL HAVE A FIX ON THE POWER BOOSTER ROD, SO WE SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM GETTING THE MECHANIC--
...THAT IS, AS LONG AS OTHER HUMANS DON'T KEEP GETTING IN OUR WAY!
A FEW HOURS LATER...
GENTLEMEN, TONIGHT I AM ANNOUNCING THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA...
...OF CRIME IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST. AND I'VE INVITED ALL OF YOU HERE TO BE PART OF IT.
I'VE APPLIED MY UNIQUE MECHANICAL EXPERTISE TO CUSTOMIZING YOUR CARS--REBUILDING THEM TO BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND AND COUNTER ANY FORSEEABLE POLICE ACTION.
THEY'RE STRONGER THAN TANKS!
AS YOU KNOW, I GUARANTEE MY WORK FOR ONE FULL YEAR OR 12,000 MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST.
SO, IF YOU WOULD EACH PAY ME THE LOW, INTRODUCTORY FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS SERVICE FEE--CASH ONLY, NO CREDIT CARDS, PLEASE--YOU MAY GET IN YOUR CARS AND BE ON YOUR WAY.
NOT SO FAST. WHAT'RE WE GETTIN' FOR FIFTY G'S?
YEAH! LET'S SEE THE GOODS.
OF COURSE, GENTLEMEN. OF COURSE!
THE SIGNAL COMES FROM WITHIN THAT BUILDING, GOLDBUG.
I'LL SCOUT THE AREA, BLASTER--

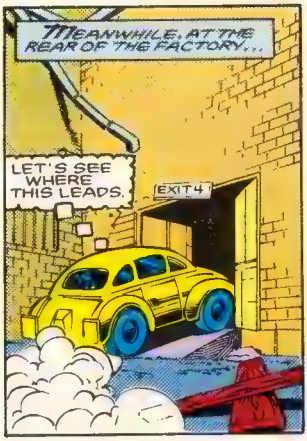

WAIT FOR MY RADIO SIGNAL BEFORE YOU DO ANYTHING.
HMM... SURE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE KIND OF CAR ONE OF OUR CLIENTS WOULD DRIVE...
LET'S SEE WHAT THERE IS TO SEE...
THERE HE IS... AND HE'S ADDRESSING A GROUP OF HUMANS.
WITH THIS COMPUTER LINK-UP I JUST INSTALLED...
...I CAN ACTIVATE THE CARS' SPECIAL FEATURES WITH THE PUSH OF A BUTTON!
WOW!
GREAT WORK, MECHANIC!
YEAH-- PRIMO STUFF!
UH-OH.

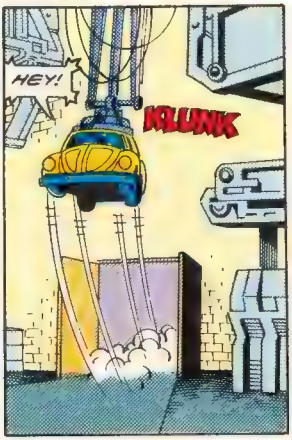

OUTSIDE...
HELICOPTERS! AND I BET THEY'RE NOT LIVE ONES EITHER!
AND INSIDE ONE OF THE HELICOPTERS...
ALL RIGHT, BOYS. WE BUGGED THAT COMPUTER SO THAT, IF THE MECHANIC STOLE IT, IT WOULD LEAD US RIGHT TO HIM!
HE DID-- AND IT DID!
LET'S MAKE SURE HE STAYS CAUGHT THIS TIME!
HEY, BOSS...
...RADAR'S PICKING UP TWO INCOMING HELICOPTERS.
WONDERFUL! OUR CLIENTS WILL GET A BETTER DEMONSTRATION THAN THEY COULD HAVE EVER IMAGINED!
SUSPICIONS WERE RIGHT. MORE HUMANS.
BLASTER, THIS IS GOLDBUG...
...THE MECHANIC HAS A SQUADRON OF HEAVILY ARMED VEHICLES AT HIS COMMAND.
THAT COULD BE A PROBLEM. THE HUMANS WE MET EARLIER ARE STORMING THE BUILDING AS WE SPEAK.
NO! THEY'LL BE CUT TO PIECES! YOU HAVE TO...
...STOP THEM!
HMM... I'M PICKING UP A RADIO TRANSMISSION... FROM NEARBY!
I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO ON MY OWN!
YEAH, AND I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO!
GRIMLOCK WOULD BE HAPPY TO LET THESE GUYS GO IN AND GET GROUND TO PROTOPLASMIC PULP--

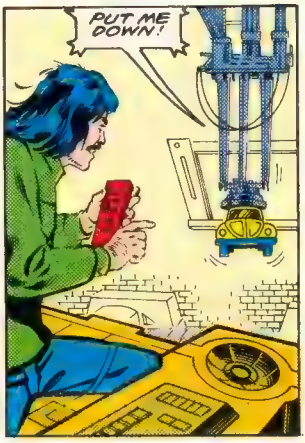
--AHH, BUT I GUESS I'M JUST NOT THAT KIND OF ROBOT!
HEY, HUMANS--LET'S TALK!
WHA--?! HOLD UP, EVERYONE!
FIRE ON MY COMMAND!
GO AHEAD.
NO? GOOD.
NOW THAT THAT'S OUT OF THE WAY--LET'S DISCUSS WHY WE'RE ALL HERE--THE MECHANIC!
HOLD YOUR FIRE, BOYS.


GO INTO THAT BUILDING BY YOURSELVES AND HE'LL SLAUGHTER YOU. I GUARANTEE IT...
BUT IF WE COOPERATE, I'M CERTAIN WE CAN AVOID THAT.
MY ORDERS ARE TO DESTROY ROBOTS LIKE YOU.

AND MY ORDERS ARE TO DESTROY HUMANS LIKE YOU.
SOME ORDERS ARE NOT MEANT TO BE FOLLOWED.
YEAH, I KNOW THE TYPE.
SO WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?

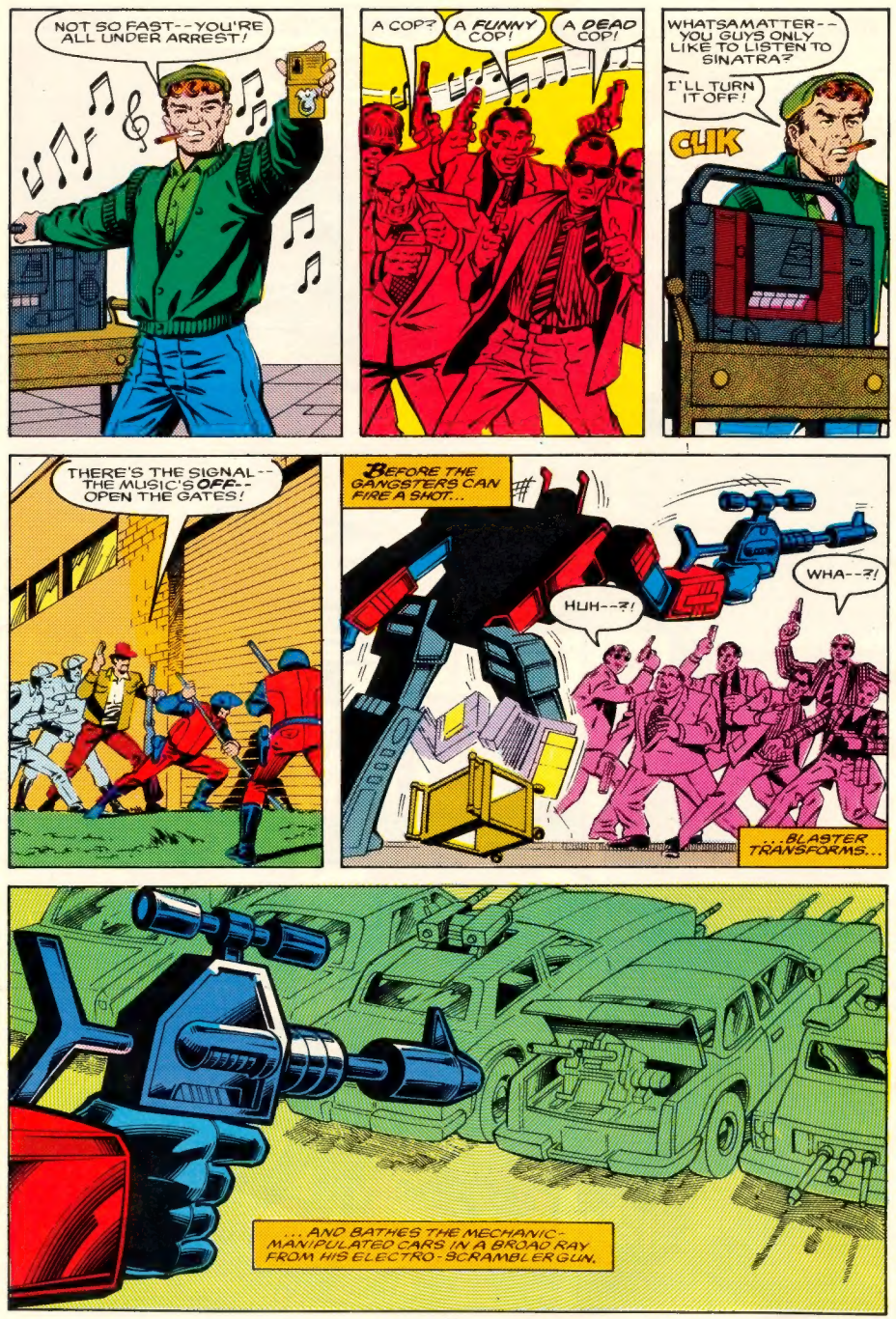

MEANWHILE, AT THE REAR OF THE FACTORY...
LET'S SEE WHERE THIS LEADS.
EXIT

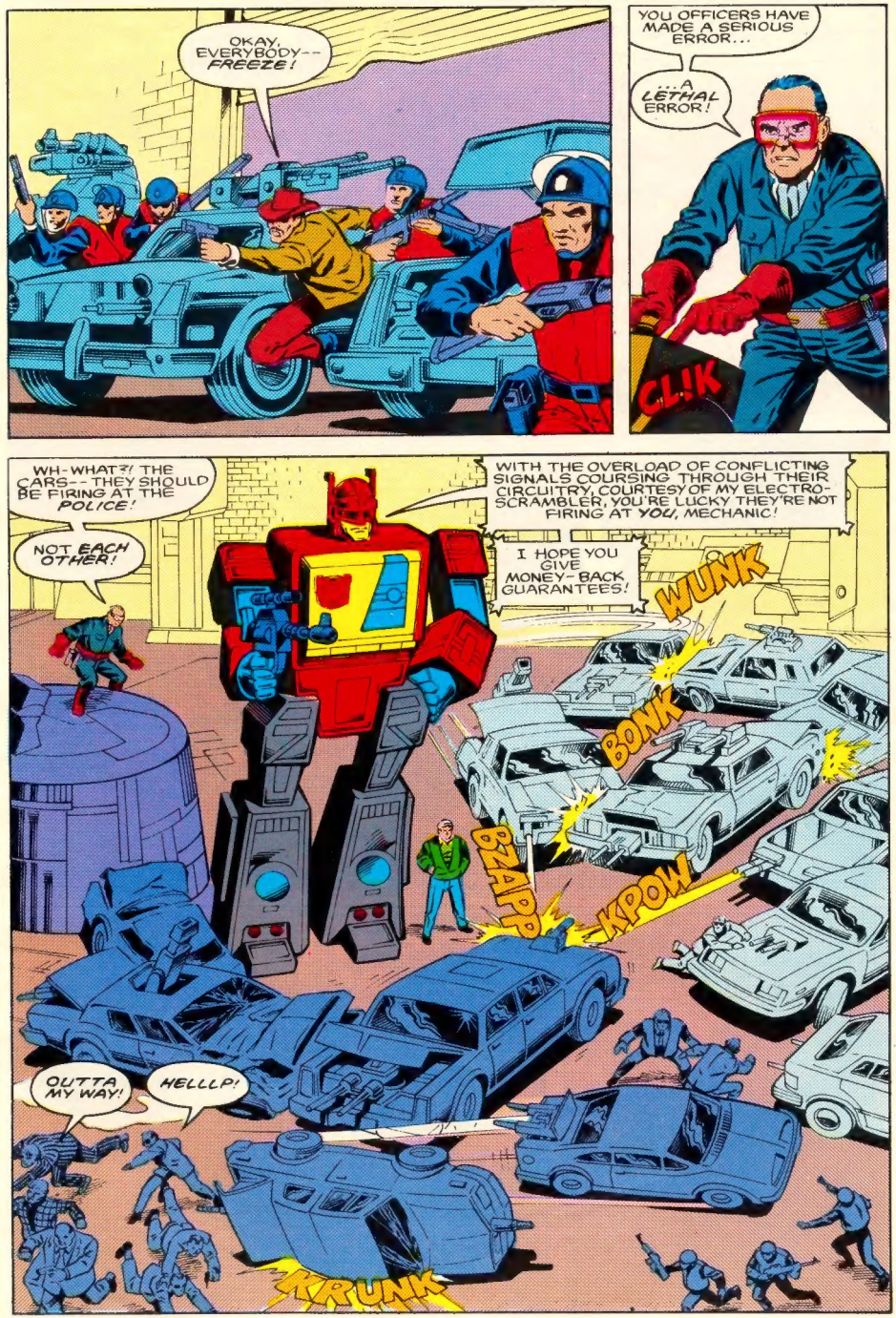

HEY!
KLUNK


PUT ME DOWN!

AND AT THE FRONT OF THE FACTORY...
BOP-BOP-A-LOO-BOP-BA-DOOP!

GOOD EVENING, FRIENDS.
HUH?
WHO IS THIS JERK?!
I HATE ROCK MUSIC!
LET'S TURN HIS VOLUME DOWN- PERMANENTLY!


NOT SO FAST--YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST!
A COP?
A FUNNY COP!
A DEAD COP!
WHATSAMATTER--YOU GUYS ONLY LIKE TO LISTEN TO SINATRA?
I'LL TURN IT OFF!
CLIK
THERE'S THE SIGNAL--THE MUSIC'S OFF--OPEN THE GATES!
BEFORE THE GANGSTERS CAN FIRE A SHOT...
HUH--?!
WHA--?!
...BLASTER TRANSFORMS...
...AND BATHES THE MECHANIC-MANIPULATED CARS IN A BROAD RAY FROM HIS ELECTRO-SCRAMBLER GUN.


OKAY, EVERYBODY--- FREEZE!
YOU OFFICERS HAVE MADE A SERIOUS ERROR...
...A LETHAL ERROR!
CL!K
WH-WHAT?! THE CARS--THEY SHOULD BE FIRING AT THE POLICE!
NOT EACH OTHER!
WITH THE OVERLOAD OF CONFLICTING SIGNALS COURSING THROUGH THEIR CIRCUITRY, COURTESY OF MY ELECTRO-SCRAMBLER, YOU'RE LUCKY THEY'RE NOT FIRING AT YOU, MECHANIC!
I HOPE YOU GIVE MONEY-BACK GUARANTEES!
WUNK
BONK
BZAPP
KPOW
OUTTA MY WAY!
HELLLP!
KRUNK

STOP RIGHT THERE, FELLAS! YOU'RE ALL BEING RECALLED--TO JAIL!
UH-OH. LOOKS LIKE GOLDBUG IS IN TROUBLE!
BAWOOM
NO ONE THWARTS THE MECHANIC AND LIVES! NO ONE!
LOOKS LIKE GOLDBUG WILL HAVE TO WAIT.
BONK
EXIT
NO USE FIGHTING ANYMORE... MUST TRY TO ESCAPE! USE THE CONFUSION INSIDE TO MY ADVANTAGE!
MEANWHILE...
UH... CAN'T WE DISCUSS THIS LIKE TWO INTELLIGENT BEINGS?
I DON'T SPEAK TO CARS--I STRIP 'EM!

AND I DON'T SPEAK TO CAR-THIEVES-- I ARREST 'EM!
HANDS UP, DIRT-BAG!
SOON...
THANKS! YOU HELPED US CATCH SOME OF THE MOST WANTED CRIMINALS IN THE COUNTRY!
EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'T EXACTLY FOLLOW MY CAPTAIN'S ORDERS AND DESTROY YOU TWO, I DON'T THINK HE'LL COMPLAIN ABOUT THE RESULTS.
I'M GLAD WE MET. SORRY I CALLED YOU OVERGROWN TOASTERS BEFORE.
UNFORTUNATELY, OUR COMMANDER WON'T BE NEARLY AS UNDERSTANDING.
GRIMLOCK WON'T LOOK AT OUR COOPERATION AS A BONUS, BUT AS A FAILURE-- AND WE HAVE NOTHING TO SHOW FOR IT. NO MECHANIC, NO RECOVERED AUTOBOT WEAPONS. NOTHING!
YEAH, OLD MICROBRAIN WON'T BE TOO HAPPY.
BUT LIKE I SAID BEFORE, SOME ORDERS ARE NOT MEANT TO BE FOLLOWED...
...AND, FOR THAT MATTER, NEITHER ARE SOME LEADERS.
WHICH WAY TO THE ARK, GOLDBUG?
BEHIND US, TO THE EAST.
LET'S GO WEST.
NEXT: CRATER CRITTERS!